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go through it and then put supplementary questions? Is it a fact that many of the Christian officials have been shown better treatment like promotions, etc., in preference to others by the present Registrar of Co-operative Societies? "

THE HN. SRI D. SANJIVAYA :—" The answer in an emphatic 'No', Sir."

SRI M. HANUMANTHA RAO :—" అధ్యక్షా, ఆఫీసుల్లో ఉన్నటువంటి రిజిస్ట్రార్‌గారు నిమ్న జాతులకు చెందినటువంటి subordinate staff ను దూరంగా అనగా అంటరానివాళ్లగా ఎంచి వాళ్లను చాలా అగౌరవంగా అనాగరికంగా చూస్తున్నారనే విషయము మంత్రిగారి దృష్టికి వచ్చినదా."

THE HON SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" సభ్యులుగారు వేసినటువంటి ప్రశ్నకు ప్రస్తుతము చర్చలో ఉన్నటువంటి ప్రశ్నకు ఏమీ సంబంధములేదని తెలియచేస్తున్నాను."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, arising out of the answer 'emphatic no', may I ask the Hon. Minister whether he will be pleased to assure this House that if specific instances of this kind are brought to his notice, he will institute an enquiry and redress the grievances? "

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" If specific instances are brought to the notice of the Government, I assure hon. Members that suitable enquiries will be instituted and proper action will be taken."

SRI G. LATCHANNA :—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Government are adopting any policy in making appointments and promotions so as to give preference or encouragement to Backward Classes and Harijans? If the answer is in the affirmative, may I ask whether the figures given in respect of Backward Classes and Harijans are in proportion to their total population? "

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—" It is a well known fact that Government have been giving due consideration to the Harijans and Backward Classes. But I cannot at the moment say whether the figures I have given are in proportion to their population."

10-40 a.m. SRI A. GOVINDASAMY NAYAGAR :—" கிருஸ்துவர்களுக்கு தனிச் சலுகை கொடுப்பதற்காகவேண்டி டிப்டி ரிஜிஸ்தரார்களாக, கிருஸ்துவர்களையே நியமிப்பது மந்திரி அவர்களுக்குத் தெரியுமா ? "

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA :—It is not relevant to the publication. "

Artesian wells in South Arcot.

* 235 Q.—SRI M. MUNI REDDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) How many artesian wells the Government have so far started in Vadalur taluk, South Arcot district, and how many of them are working at present and the minimum and maximum cost of each artesian well;

(b) whether it is a fact that Rs. 30 is fixed as water-cess per acre in that locality and if so, on what basis the water-cess is so calculated; and

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(c) whether any representations have been made to the Government to reduce the water-cess and if so, what action has been taken by the Government?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" (a) There is no such taluk as Vadalur taluk in South Arcot district. Presumably, the hon. Member refers to Cuddalore taluk.

Three artesian wells have so far been sunk in Cuddalore taluk. Of these, only two proved to be successful and are now working. The actual cost of one of these two wells (well sunk in Kolakundy village) is Rs. 7,455 while that of the other (well sunk in Nainakuppam village) is Rs. 6,981.

The probable cost of each artesian well has been estimated by the Government at Rs. 8,000. The cost however varies with the depth up to which the bore is required to be taken in each case to tap artesian springs adequate for irrigation purposes.

" (b) The water cess fixed for irrigation from the artesian wells in the locality is Rs. 22-8-0 per acre per annum and not Rs. 30. This rate has been fixed on the basis of the water cess charged in the case of dufassal crops raised in the Cauvery-Mettur Project area; it takes into account the plentiful supply of water from the artesian wells which will be available all the year round and which will enable the ryots to grow at least one short-term foodcrop in addition to paddy.

" (c) No representation to reduce the water cess has been received from anybody in Cuddalore taluk."

SRI M. LAKSHMANASWAMI :—" ఆ బావుల క్రింద ఒక్కొక్క బావి క్రింద ఎంతమాగాణి సాగుఅవుతుందో తెలియచేస్తారా ? "

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" I may tell the hon. Member that I have not got the figures as regards the number of acres which each well irrigates, but I have got figures to show that all the 20 wells which were sanctioned in 1948 would irrigate and that all the wells sanctioned in 1950 also would irrigate. As regards the 20 wells sanctioned in 1948, they are expected to irrigate an area of 1,570 acres, and in July 1950 about 101 artesian wells were sanctioned and they are expected to irrigate an area of 5,200 acres."

SRI G. LATCHANNA :—" Is it a fact that the number of existing artesian wells exceeds the requisite number and that, therefore, the quantity of water is gradually diminishing? "

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" Notice, Sir."

Nellore Thermal Station.

* 236 Q.—SRI K. SHUNMUGHAM (on behalf of Sri D. Dasarathararamiah) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the thermal station at Nellore is self-sufficient financially;